

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. **(Currently Amended)** ~~Electric~~An electric hand tool comprising, ~~in a casing, the casing further comprising:~~

electrically operated components;~~and~~

a housing configured to accommodate a battery that powers the ~~said electrically operated components, with detachable;~~

a locking means attached to the casing for locking of securing the battery in the housing in a state of being electrically connected to the electrically operated components its housing;

an actuating trigger configured to actuate the locking means; and

a retaining finger extending from a surface of the housing, the retaining finger configured to in a position of mechanical locking and electrical connection to the said components and retain the accommodated battery in the housing in an electrically disconnected state in a position in which it is mechanically retained in its housing but electrically disconnected, characterized in that the securing means are designed to retain the battery in the electrically disconnected position only by friction.

2. **(Currently Amended)** The tool ~~Tool~~ according to Claim claim 1, in which wherein the battery accommodating housing is designed configured to accommodate therein a battery by sliding, and

wherein the ~~battery securing locking means further comprising comprises an electrical a locking finger movable and a the mechanical retaining finger configured to be both mounted so that they can move, in a direction roughly substantially orthogonal to the sliding direction in which~~

~~of the battery slides, between a locked and a retaining position, respectively, and a retracted function.~~

3. **(Currently Amended)** ~~Tool A tool~~ according to ~~Claim claim 2~~, in which the locking and retaining fingers are mounted so that they can be moved ~~into the~~into retracted positions against the action of elastic return means.

4. **(Currently Amended)** ~~Tool A tool~~ according to ~~Claim claim 2~~, further comprising in which the locking finger is secured to a rod mounted to slide into the retracted position against the action of a return spring under the action of an actuating trigger a rod slidably connecting the actuating trigger to the locking finger.

5. **(Currently Amended)** ~~Tool A tool~~ according to ~~Claim claim 2~~, in which the retaining finger is secured to a pivoting elastic leaf.

6. **(Currently Amended)** ~~Tool A tool~~ according to Claim 2, in which the locking finger and the retaining finger are mounted to be moved into the retracted position, one in each of two opposite directions configured to move in opposite directions when accommodating an inserted battery.

7. **(Withdrawn)** Battery for powering electrically operated components for the electric hand tool of the invention, characterized in that it comprises a mechanical and electrical locking catch and mechanical retaining ramp means.

8. **(Withdrawn)** Battery according to Claim 7, in which the locking catch is formed by an undercut internal shoulder.

9. (Withdrawn) Battery according to Claim 7, in which the ramp means comprise a retaining boss with an entry ramp and an opposite retaining ramp.

10. (Withdrawn) Battery according to Claim 9, in which the retaining boss is formed near the entry end of the battery, via which end it is introduced into its accommodating housing in the tool, the locking catch and the retaining boss being formed respectively on two opposite sides of the battery.

11. **(Currently Amended)** ~~Electric~~ An electric hand tool comprising a casing that further comprises:

~~, in a casing,~~ electrically operated components and ~~components;~~

a housing configured to accommodate a battery that powers the ~~said components,~~ electrically operated components;

~~with a detachable~~ a first battery securing element mounted to the casing, the first battery securing element for securing ~~configured to lock the battery in its housing~~ the housing in a position of mechanical locking and electrical connection ~~being electrically connected to the said components; and~~

a second battery securing element mounted to the casing and configured to in a position in which it is mechanically retained ~~retain the battery in its housing~~ but the housing in an electrically disconnected state, characterized in that the second battery securing element is designed to retain the battery in the electrically disconnected position only by friction; and

an actuating trigger mounted to the casing and configured to actuate the first battery securing element;

wherein the second battery securing element includes a compressible retaining finger extending from an interior surface of the housing, the retaining finger configured to engage a recess disposed in an accommodated battery when the accommodated battery is locked in the housing by the first battery securing element.

12. **(Currently Amended)** ~~Tool~~ A tool according to Claim-claim 11, in which ~~wherein~~ the battery-accommodating housing is ~~designed-configured~~ to accommodate therein a battery by sliding, and;

wherein the first battery securing element comprises an electrical locking finger, and
wherein locking finger and a mechanical retaining finger, both mounted so that they can
move and the retaining finger are configured to move in directions, in a direction roughly
orthogonal to the direction in which the battery slides, between a locked and a retaining position,
respectively, and a retracted function.

13. **(Currently Amended)** ~~Tool~~ A tool according to Claim-claim 12, in which ~~wherein~~ the locking finger and the retaining fingers-finger are mounted so that they can be
moved configured to move into the retracted retracted positions against the action of an elastic return element.

14. **(Currently Amended)** ~~Tool~~ A tool according to Claim 12, in which ~~wherein~~ the locking finger is actuated by the actuating trigger via a secured to a slidably disposed rod mounted
to slide into the retracted position against the action of a return spring under the action of an
actuating trigger.

15. **(Currently Amended)** ~~Tool~~ according to Claim-claim 12, in which ~~wherein~~ the retaining finger is secured to a pivoting elastic leaf.

16. **(Currently Amended)** ~~Tool~~ A tool according to Claim-claim 12, in which the
locking finger and the retaining finger are ~~mounted to be moved into the retracted position, one in~~
~~each of two configured to move in opposite directions.~~

17. (Withdrawn) Battery for powering electrically operated components for the electric hand tool of the invention, comprising a mechanical and electrical locking catch and a mechanical retaining ramp.

18. (Withdrawn) Battery according to Claim 17, in which the locking catch is formed by an undercut internal shoulder.

19. (Withdrawn) Battery according to Claim 17, in which the ramp comprises a retaining boss with an entry ramp and an opposite retaining ramp.

20. (Withdrawn) Battery according to Claim 19, in which the retaining boss is formed near the entry end of the battery, via which end it is introduced into its accommodating housing in the tool, the locking catch and the retaining boss being formed respectively on two opposite sides of the battery of the battery.

21. (New) A tool according to claim 1, wherein the retaining finger is in a relaxed state when the battery, accommodated by the housing, is electrically connected to the electrically operated components; and

wherein the retaining finger is in a compressed state when the battery, accommodated by the housing, is electrically disconnected from the electrically operated components.